MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

June 2014 – Our next meeting will be held June 19, 7 PM, at the Mayfair Mall community room, lower level. The program will be extended member exhibits of non-numismatic hobbies (but anyone bringing numismatic items is more than welcome to show their stuff!!

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road).

President:	Justin Perrault	**Vice President:**	Jim Heinrich
Secretary:	Joe Paonessa	**Treasurer:**	Lee Hartz
Sgt. at Arms:	Stu Caddell	**Trustee '12-'14:**	Tom Dallmann
Trustee '14-'16:	Leon Saryan	**Trustee '13-'15:**	Gary Bieringer
Librarian:	Joe Paonessa	**Newsletter:**	Leon Saryan

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Newsletter material: **c/o PO Box 210313, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221-8006**
Web Site Address: www.milwaukeenumismaticsociety.com

June Coin of the Month

Featured this month is an uncirculated US Mint 2004-P Jefferson/Lewis and Clark keel boat nickel along with a genuine original mint die that was used to strike the coin. The coin and die (donated by Derzon's) come in a beautiful boxed set with a certificate of authenticity signed by mint director Henrietta Holsman Fore. Bids open at $5 for this exceptional item.

June 2014 MNS President's Message

The semi-annual club auction at the May meeting was another eventful one, with all 32 lots finding their way to new homes. Thanks to all who contributed lots and to those who participated in the bidding.

A sign-up sheet was passed around at the last meeting to gather a count of all those members and guests that plan on attending the 6:00 PM tour at the Villa Terrace on July 17th. If you did not sign-up, please do so at the June meeting, or contact me directly to let me know that you plan on attending. We need as close to an exact count as possible so that the Museum can better coordinate schedules with their guides.

I am happy to report that the membership approved the cost to rent a bus for the day for those interested in attending the ANA's World's Fair of Money in Rosemont. At 8:30 AM on Thursday, August 7th, the bus will be leaving the park and ride lot on College Avenue in Oak Creek along the southbound lanes of the Interstate. The trip is underwritten by the club and is therefore free to members. It is a larger bus this year, so there should be plenty of room. Please sign up at the next meeting so that we know whether or not to expect your attendance.

Members who attend the bus trip to the ANA show will have all day to peruse the bourse, since the bus will not depart for home until about 5:30 PM that evening. If you are an ANA member, the bourse opens for business at 9:30 AM. There are bound to be a number of great exhibits, and upon registration be sure to review that day's schedule for any other educational meetings or lectures you might want to attend.

At the last meeting we also received another application for general membership, coming from Michael O'Connor. More information will be provided about him at the next meeting, and I look forward to a vote by the membership the June meeting.

I will be unable to attend the June meeting, but am confident that things will run smoothly in my absence. I hope to see many of you in July on our regular meeting night for the special tour of the Villa Terrace!

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.785.7663

MN$ 2014

Schedule

Monthly meetings in 2014 are held at 7 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Dec 19:	Holiday Party
Jan 16:	New officer induction
Feb 20:	Brian O'Keefe: Securing Your Collection
Mar 20:	Merit Badge Program
Apr 17:	Fred Borgmann: Wisconsin Military Medals Presentation
May 15:	Spring Auction (Dave H)
Jun 19:	Non-numismatic hobbies
Jul 17:	Summer Outing at Villa Terrace (Meet at 6 PM) 2220 N. Terrace Ave. Milwaukee, WI
Aug 21:	Educational Video Viewing (*tentative*)
Sep 18:	Numismatic Trivia Game
Oct 16:	Raffle drawing
Nov 20:	Auction (Dave H)
Dec 18:	Holiday Party

Annual Dues

Dues for 2014 are $10. They may be mailed to MNS, PO Box 241174, Milwaukee, WI 53224. Thanks to those who have paid.

PLEASE NOTE:

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to $50. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.785.7663 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make this club a success.

2014 Numismatic Events

June 21-26	ANA Summer Seminar Session I
June 28-July 3	ANA Summer Seminar Session II
August 7	MNS Sponsored Bus Trip to ANA World's Fair of Money (8:30 AM-7 PM)
August 5-9	ANA World's Fair of Money (Rosemont, IL) Donald E. Stephens Conv. Ctr.
August 17	Fond du Lac Club Show Holiday Inn 625 W. Rolling Meadows
Oct. 5, 2014	MNS Coin Show Serb Hall, Milwaukee

Refreshment Schedule

Jan:	Dave Herrewig
Feb:	Don Kaminski
Mar:	Tom Dallmann
Apr:	Dave Hunsicker
May:	Stu Caddell
Jun:	Pam Talmadge
Jul:	N/A
Aug:	Open
Sep:	Open
Oct:	Justin Perrault
Nov:	Leon Andrakas
Dec:	Holiday Pizza Gang

Milwaukee Numismatic Society
May 15, 2014 Minutes

The 947th meeting of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Justin Perrault. 31 members and 3 guests were in attendance. Justin led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. In the absence of the secretary and VP, past-president Leon S volunteered to take minutes. Door prizes were won by Daniel Flaws, Harry Siaggas, Gary Bieringer, Steve Jacobson, Betty Petrovick, Henry Jaworski, Dave Herrewig, Don Kaminski, and Roger Lick.

The May "Coin of the Month"–a 2006 state quarter proof set–was auctioned by Dave Hunsicker and won by Steve Jacobson for a winning bid of $8. Minutes of April 17 were approved without changes.

Membership: Don Carrion, Daniel Flaws and Toby Stewart were approved as new members by voice vote. An application received from Michael O'Connor will be considered at the next meeting.

Programs: The July 17 meeting will be a visit to Villa Terrace, 2220 N. Terrace Ave., on Milwaukee's east side (meet there at 6 PM). On August 7, a bus trip to the ANA show in Rosemont (free for MNS members) will leave from the SW corner of the park & ride at I-94 and College Ave. at 8:30 AM. (The bus cost was approved by voice vote after a motion by Tom Dallmann and a second by Gary.) An educational video is planned for regular August meeting. Volunteers for refreshments and programs are always needed.

Newsletter: Leon passed out extra copies of the May issue of MNS News to the new members and applicants. Short filler articles are always welcome.

Treasurer's Report: Lee reported that for April there were $140.00 in receipts and $892.97 in disbursements, netting a negative $752.97 cash flow. $4.43 in interest was received.

Correspondence: The NOW News was received. A letter from ANA was read.

Exhibits: Leon S summarized the MNS-member exhibits at CSNS and showed two gold prize awards.

MNS 80th Anniversary: It was proposed, moved (by Jon Williams) and seconded (by Dave Hunsicker) to have a limited edition of 25 copies of the 2015 Red Book specially imprinted for the club's 80th anniversary, at a cost of $10 per book. Bill Spencer will prepare the books.

Library Book Donation: Five area clubs are each selecting a library in 2014 for a book donation. MNS will participate as we have done in the past (expenses to be underwritten by CSNS). Bill Spencer will order the books. MNS will make its donation to the West Bend Public Library.

Sunshine: Lee Hartz reported that Pat Bethe attended the SSCC banquet in early May and it seemed to him that she was on the mend. We look forward to seeing her back at a meeting real soon.

Refreshments: Congrats to member Peter Caddell, whose birthday (and impending departure to college) was celebrated with refreshments and cake kindly provided by his family

Auction: The semi-annual MNS auction was organized and called by Dave Hunsicker. All 32 lots sold.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Saryan (MNS Acting Secretary)

Directions to Villa Terrace Museum

The July 17, 2014 meeting will be a museum tour of Villa Terrace, a decorative arts museum and garden overlooking Lake Michigan on Milwaukee's East Side. To get there take North Avenue east all the way to the famous water tower near Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital. Go to the right around the water tower and you will be on Terrace Avenue. Turn right on Terrace and go about 2 blocks to 2220 N. Terrace Avenue.

Directions to College Avenue Park & Ride

On August 7, MNS is sponsoring a bus trip to the ANA Convention in Rosemont, Illinois. Meet at 8:30 AM, and expect to leave the convention center at 5 PM and be home by about 7 PM. The meeting place is the Park & Ride on the SW corner of College Avenue and I-94. From the north side of Milwaukee take south I-43 to south I-94 and follow the signs toward Illinois, exit at College Avenue, turn right and then left into the parking lot. From the west you can take I-894 bypass to I-94 south and exit at College, turn right and then left into the parking lot.

Harry Collins, Former Wisconsin Coin Dealer, Slain

Former Milwaukee coin dealer, Harold "Harry" Collins, 66, was killed in an apparent robbery on May 1, 2014. It occurred in Monroe, Louisiana at his coin store, which was at the front of his home at 602 Hudson Lane. About 4 PM three men entered his store and Collins was shot once in the chest. It is unknown if anything was taken. As of May 5 no arrests had been made.

The local *News Star* reported that Collins' store had earlier been burglarized on March 25. Most of the items taken at that time had not been recovered. The suspect in that incident, Jeffrey Pope, shot and killed himself during a standoff with police.

Collins joined Numismatists of Wisconsin in 1972 (life member #18). From 1982-84 he served as NOW Secretary/Treasurer, and also served on the Board from 1984-86. He was also an ANA member and a life member (#200) of Central States Numismatic Society.

Early on he operated a store with Ken Christie in Menomonee Falls, WI under the name of Falls Coins. He then moved to Schofield, WI where he sold coins under the name of Collins Coins and Stamps. He moved to Milwaukee where he got divorced, and then moved to Louisiana. He had a table at the Iola coin show in 2010. –Tom Casper

Another Blast from the Past

Here is another clipping tipped into an old Yeoman Red Book. This column by Robert Svensson undoubtedly dates to 1970 and refers to missing mint marks on modern proof coins. A quick check of the Red Book indicates that proof sets with missing mint marks on dimes, nickels, or cents were made in 1968, 1970, 1971, 1975, 1983, and 1990. There are other proof set oddities too, so check your references and keep your eyes peeled!-- LAS

Coins/Robert Svensson

Buyer Of Proof Set Runs Into A Bonanza

Mr. H., a regular reader of this column, writes that he has received his 1970 U.S. proof set from the U.S. Assay Office in San Francisco.

"On close inspection," he says, "the 'S' mint mark is missing from the dime." His question is, "Should I return it and ask for a new set?"

This writer fervently hopes his answer reached Mr. H. in time, and that he still has the proof set with the missing dime mint mark in his possession. Sheer good luck has presented this gentleman with one of the most fantastic mint errors of all time.

Dealers have been frantically trying to buy this set and offering $300 and more for each set they can get.

Errors in production coins do happen, but rarely in the case of proof sets which are subject to such careful handling at the mint. No one knows for certain just how many of the 1970 proof sets with the missing mint mark went out to buyers.

A great many odd coins do leave the U.S. mints from time to time. For the most part, they consist of such things as off-center strikes or dies struck on blanks of other denominations.

These are interesting, of course. Some people have quite a collection of mint errors, mis-strikes, and other off-beat coins. Some are valuable, others are simply interesting curios. Mint errors are the subject of several books and pamphlets.

Several mint-error coins have indeed attained recognition and significant premium value. Among these are the three-legged 1937 D Buffalo Nickel. This error was caused by a clogged die. The coin retails anywhere from $25 to $200, depending on condition.

Another high-premium error is the 1955 Lincoln cent, on which the obverse (face) was inadvertently double struck. The retail quotation on this choice error ranges between $200 and $400.

Early Numismatic Recollections

By L. A. Saryan

It seems that either you are a collector, or you are not. Many, if not most coin collectors tend to start at an early age. I was no exception. I first became aware of coins and postage stamps around the age of 8 or 9.

Many baby boomers got their start with World War II memorabilia—coins and paper currency brought home from Europe or the Far East by parents who had served overseas. I was one of those boomers, but in my case, that did not apply, since my father worked stateside during the War as an inspector of chemical materiel. But my mother did receive envelopes from her family in Lebanon, which became the nucleus of my stamp collection.

I grew up in northern Delaware in the 1950's, just a stone's throw from southern New Jersey where a counterfeiter named Francis Henning was turning out fake nickel five-cent pieces by the thousands. One day, I think it was in 3rd grade, I arrived in school to find several classmates bouncing nickels on a Formica desk top, trying to identify one of the counterfeits. I think this was my first encounter with numismatics.

Neither of my parents thought much of my hobbies. Excess cash needed to build a collection was in short supply (OK, non-existent!) when I was growing up. When I asked for permission to visit the "stamp store" (Delaware Stamp & Coin on Orange Street in Wilmington), my father frowned. "That's not collecting," he said, "that's buying." I was reminded to keep my enthusiasm for purchases in check.

In those days, school lunches cost 30 cents, and my dad would give me pocket change so that I could buy one each day. I can distinctly remember that one day he gave me a walking liberty half with a mint mark on the obverse, under the date. I didn't realize that I was spending a rarity at the time.

It was in fourth or fifth grade that I obtained my first ancient coin. It was the only ancient coin I had ever seen and I knew right away that I had to own it. A Roman provincial, it is brassy and fairly large, unlike the more common small late Roman bronzes. I obtained it in trade for a large pile of stamps from Randy Turner, a friend of mine who later became the State Archaeologist of Virginia. The coin is worn smooth, its legend has long disappeared and even the portrait is not readily recognizable. I have since spent countless hours trying to attribute the piece using books and catalogs, even showing it to several dealers. About 35 years ago, I thought I had found it, but today I am not so sure. The coin is still in my collection, and every so often I still search for it in auction offerings. One thing for sure, it has to be rare; in the past 55 years I have never seen another example.

In the summer of 1961 (when Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle were battling to break Babe Ruth's home run record), my parents gave me a blue Whitman Mercury Dime folder for my birthday. Soon, I was actively saving silver quarters and halves in the same folders. If I needed cash I would simply raid my collection by removing circulated coins with the highest mintages, and then replace them later with earnings from my newspaper route. Meanwhile, Jon Rafal, one of my collecting friends was buying US gold double eagles for $30 each (SMART!).

One of the important contacts that I made in those days was with Jules Reiver, a leading specialist and researcher/writer of early American coins. Besides being a customer on my newspaper route, I had a crush on his daughter! One day in 1963 I stopped at his house to collect his 42 cent weekly bill, and as I entered his home he was seated at a table with a huge pile of coins that he was working on. I mentioned that I needed a Barber half dollar as the last coin for my coin collecting Boy Scout merit badge, and he promptly selected and gave me an example from his extensive collection. Later, I learned that during World War II he had played an important role in the invasion at Omaha Beach and the liberation of Paris.

Half a century later, I still remember Mr. Reiver's generosity, and I am still collecting. ###

MILWAUKEE COIN SHOW

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 2014

One day only – don't miss this one!

Open to the public

Show Hours: 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society (MNS) will host its Annual Coin Show on Sunday, October 5th, 2014, at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 West Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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